

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Notes on the Irish *Megastigmus* (Hymenoptera: Torymidae) including two species new to Ireland.—The authors are aware of only three species of *Megastigmus* on the Irish list. These are *M. pictus* (Förster), *M. pinus* Parfitt and *M. suspectus* Borries (Bouček, 1970; O'Connor & O'Connor, 1984). From work on material housed in the National Museum of Ireland, it is now possible to add another two species to the Irish list viz. *M. dorsalis* (Fab.) and *M. spermatrophus* Wachtl and to report a second Irish record of *M. pictus*. Most of the specimens are from the A. W. Stelfox Collection and were returned to the National Museum of Ireland by the Smithsonian Institution in 1985 (Beirne, 1985). These had been identified by the late M. W. R. de V. Graham who also determined the Oaklands specimen of *M. dorsalis*. In case of any possible labelling errors made by the senior author while transferring the Stelfox material between the two museums, these specimens and the others cited in this paper have all been redetermined using Bouček (*op. cit.*). Unless otherwise stated, distribution and host data are from Noyes (1998).

New records

Megastigmus dorsalis (Fab.) New to Ireland

TIPPERARY: ♀, Ballinacourty (R8630), 15.ix.1943, A. W. Stelfox; WEXFORD: ♂, Oaklands (S7125), 18.vi.1982, J. P. & M. A. O'Connor; WICKLOW: Clara (T1792), 4.ix.1938, A. W. Stelfox.

This species is also known from Britain, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Sweden, the former U.S.S.R. and India. It is a hyperparasitoid in cynipid galls on oak *Quercus*.

Megastigmus spermatrophus Wachtl New to Ireland

DOWN: ♂, Donard Lodge (J3629), 16.v.1957, "ex Douglas Fir cones", A. W. Stelfox; DUBLIN: ♀, Glenasmole (O1019), 17.vi.1942, A. W. Stelfox; WICKLOW: ♀♂♂, Powerscourt (O2116), 29.iv.1921, "from the cones of the Douglas Fir", J. G. Reinhart.

This species is also known from Austria, Britain, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Poland, the former U.S.S.R., New Zealand and North America. It is a seed feeder on *Abies* and *Pseudotsuga* especially *P. uenziesii*.

Megastigmus pictus (Förster) Second Irish record

DUBLIN: ♀, Lucan (O0335), 28.vi.1944, A. W. Stelfox.

This species was previously reported from Knickeen, Co. Wicklow (Bouček, *op. cit.*). *M. pictus* is also known from Britain, Germany, Poland, Sweden, The Netherlands, the former U.S.S.R. and China. It is a seed feeder on *Larix*.

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